

Pre-Council Meeting Minutes – December 19, 2005  
Fourth Floor Conference Room, 6:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Mayor Hindman, Almeta Crayton, Chris Janku, Bob Hutton, Jim Loveless, Laura Nauser and Brian Ash

City Manager Ray Beck and other city staff members were present.

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Ballot Issue – Water and Light – Mr. Beck indicated that previously Council discussed the possibility of an April ballot issue which would include two parts – electric transmission and distribution area. He indicated that the real question is could we be ready for a ballot issue in April which would require introduction of an ordinance in January. Dasho spoke briefly about the capital improvement projects being recommended and the funding associated with those projects – copy of power point presentation is on file..

Crayton expressed concern of rate increase and effect these increases will have on low-income families.

Fleming pointed out that staff is making a concerted effort to obtain more donations through the CASH/HELP program. Dasho also pointed out the conservation programs that are available to assist in decreasing usage.

The Council asked about the status of a report previously requesting which would provide incentives to make homes more energy efficient. Dasho indicated that staff needed to get a report back to Council.

Mr. Beck indicated that we wouldn't be ready for a ballot issue until August or November, and Council would then need to determine if the two issues should be considered separately or together.

Janku expressed an interest in discussing the "need".

Mr. Beck made the following announcements:

- There are no other scheduled meetings this week.
- Sidewalk Variance – handed out to Council; Requested Council feedback. Full staff will further review.
- Sales Tax opt out: County has done so; Council has until June but can request an ordinance at any time. Fred to prepare an ordinance for next Council agenda.
- Dr. Willett – request to purchase land along trail; staff reviewed; after reviewing pros/cons request has been dropped.

- Bristol Lake Dedication – moving along; most of lake work is complete; next step PW is doing inspections and going through checklist.
- Public Buildings Update: construction began on the Howard Building. Beck is continuing to work on this building/lot.
- Office of Community Services – hearing no Council comment; proceed as outlined.
- Enhancement Projects – need to hear from Council what, if any, changes. Beck tossed out a couple of projects to consider – 763 and Forum Boulevard Bridge. Send old list of unfunded and see if Council wants to add to it.
- MoDOT priorities – Beck will ask Council to table until January 3 Council meeting. He discussed with the District Engineer last Thursday and MoDOT would like the list prioritized into “blocks”. At the next Council meeting, Mr. Beck will bring back prioritized “blocks” for Council consideration. He suggested that a high priority block might include 763, Stadium West, Scott Blvd, Gans.
- Letter from MoDOT regarding 763 – copy handed out to Council; Mr. Beck pointed out that the second page included an offer to the city to take over maintenance and that was something that was new to him. He indicated he would be following up with Roger.
- Interest Rate report – Mr. Beck indicated that if Council wanted to implement what’s outlined in Fleming’s report, the Sixth Street tax bill item would need to be tabled for two Council meetings. Fleming explained the options outlined in the report and clarified that the report recommended that the rate be set at The Wall Street Journal’s Prime Rate.
- Janku asked if the notice issue had been discussed. Fred indicated that it staff would come up with something recordable.
- Sidewalk Master Plan update – PW staff is reviewing numbers; it’s being sent out to the affected Commissions. Mayor wanted to make sure the plan was reviewed by the Bike/Pedestrian Commission.